GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3776
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006
FOREIGN TRADE POLICY
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Nayak Smt. Archana;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Sajjan Kumar Shri ;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore;Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the annual supplement of Foreign Trade Policy announced recently;

(b) the changes introduced in the supplement;

(c) the target fixed for export/import and growth rate of employment generation; and

(d) the extent to which the problems of the exporters are likely to be solved under the policy?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) Following are the salient features and key changes introduced in the supplement:

(i) Focus products and focus market schemes introduced to promote exports of products having large employment potential and penetration of strategic markets by Indian products.

(ii) The export of village and cottage industries products have been incentivised by including these products in the Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana.

(iii) A new Duty Neutralize Scheme called duty free import authorisation scheme has been introduced with the primary objective reducing working capital requirements of exporters who import most of their inputs.

(iv) A number of features have been introduced in the Served from India Scheme to promote Service Exports.

(v) A number of initiatives have been taken to facilitate emergence of India as Gems & Jewellery hub.

Electronic copies of the Annual Supplement and the Foreign Trade Policy are available on the DGFT web-site and can be accessed at http://www.dgft.gov.in/. Copies of these documents are also available in the Parliament Library.

(c) No targets are fixed for imports. Exports are expected to reach $120 billion by the end of 2006-07. According to the RIS study on employment an additional 21 million jobs are expected to be created between 2004-05 and 2009-10 as a result of export growth.

(d) Foreign Trade Policy is formulated/ modified based on consultations with the trade and industry and the felt needs are addressed.